IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OKLAHOMA

STATE OF OKLAHOMA, et al.)
Plaintiffs,	
v.	Case No. 4:05-cv-00329-GKF-PJC
TYSON FOODS, INC., et al.)
Defendants.))

MOTION TO REQUIRE PROFFER REGARDING THE SCOPE OF TESTIMONY OF DR. ROGER OLSEN

Plaintiffs have disclosed their intention to call Dr. Roger Olsen to testify on Tuesday, November 17, 2009. Dr. Olsen has submitted an expert report in this matter comprising 170 pages of text and accompanied by hundreds of pages of voluminous tables, figures, and appendices. Defendants respectfully move that Dr. Olsen's testimony be precluded or limited to non-cumulative testimony.

Dr. Olsen's principal contribution to this case was his effort to develop a distinctive chemical "signature" for poultry litter. He also attempted to develop similar signatures for cattle manure and discharges from waste water treatment plants. Dr. Olsen endeavored to do so by means of a statistical method, Principal Component Analysis ("PCA"). The Court, however, found Dr. Olsen's work to be novel, untested, unpublished, and unreliable. Hrg. Tr. at 373:22-377:6 (July 29, 2009). Specifically, the Court found that Dr. Olsen repeatedly forced his same conclusions onto whatever the available data. *Id.* at 374:20-22.

Stripped of his PCA work, the balance of Dr. Olsen's report and potential testimony is cumulative of other witnesses or otherwise unnecessary and not probative. Dr. Olsen is

repeatedly explicit in his report that he merely summarizes and relies upon work performed by Plaintiffs' other experts. See Olsen Rpt. 6-2, 6-9, 6-10, 6-14, 6-23, 6-26, 6-28, 6-31. Plaintiffs presumably intend on calling these other experts to testify to their own work. Allowing Dr. Olsen to do so would unfairly and improperly afford Plaintiffs two bites at the apple, or prevent Defendants from cross-examining the persons actually responsible for the work.

Without his PCA, Dr. Olsen's "expertise" is otherwise limited to documenting the results of Plaintiffs' sampling and testing efforts, and concluding on that basis that various constituents associated with poultry litter are found in decreasing concentrations in various environmental components as water flows downhill from fields to Lake Tenkiller. This opinion is both cumulative and improper. Virtually all of this was already testified to by Dr. Fisher. Moreover, Dr. Olsen's previously disclosed "pathway" opinions, which he in large part attributes to Dr. Fisher¹ were presented as background and basis for his PCA, not as a separately source tracking methodology. In fact, in his report, Dr. Olsen does not tender any firm opinions or conclusions until after discussing his PCA, and it is clear that PCA is the principal underpinning for his opinions in this case.

Moreover, Dr. Olsen's proposed testimony is not probative of any remaining disputed issue in this case. Based on Plaintiffs' testing, Dr. Olsen purports to see decreasing concentrations of poultry-related constituents as water moves through downhill compartments. But each of those constituents has multiple sources in the environment, and Dr. Olsen cannot

¹ As Dr Olsen writes in his report, "Dr. Bert Fisher has prepared an expert report evaluating the poultry wastes and delineating the pathways from the EOF to the final repository, Lake Tenkiller (Fisher 2008)." Olsen Rpt. § 6.8.3. Dr. Olsen repeats Dr. Fisher's opinion that "if sufficient rainfall occurs in a short enough period of time, runoff is produced (i.e. not all of the water can be taken up by the soil and it runs off the field)." *Id.* Dr. Olsen continues, "Dr. Fisher states (Fisher 2008) that surface water that does not runoff can travel with the water as it moves downward through the soil and vadose zone to pollute the groundwater." *Id.* Dr. Olsen's "pathway" analysis thus merely repeats Dr. Fisher's testimony that water runs downhill.

tease apart any specific amount of any of them contributed by poultry. The Court has already been treated to an extensive discussion of this generalized "population" approach during the testimony of Dr. Fisher. But Dr. Olsen, like Dr. Fisher, conducted no traditional fate and transport study of any of the constituents upon which he relies. In fact he candidly admitted in his deposition that in his view his PCA made any such inquiry unnecessary. Olsen 9-11-08 Depo. at 565:17-24.² He repeatedly cited his PCA as his justification for having failed to examine the vast majority of other sources of his constituents of interest in the IRW. Olsen 9-10-08 Depo. at 76:8-80:9 (relying on PCA as justification for failure to investigate streambank erosion); *id.* at 80:10-81:17 (same as to urban runoff); *id.* at 90:13-21 (same as to cattle impact on edge-of-field samples).

Dr. Olsen's proposed testimony is thus cumulative and wasteful of trial time. It also lacks independent foundation, and is not probative of disputed issues. For these reasons Defendants respectfully move the Court to require Plaintiffs to make a proffer as to what new, admissible, and probative testimony Dr. Olsen will present, or otherwise restrict his testimony.

² Q. Specifically how did you account for the differences in fate and transport via surface water pathways as compared, for instance, to groundwater pathways?

A. I didn't have to in the principal component analysis. It gives me a chemical analysis at a particular spot, and if I still see the constituents and it has a particular score, then it's impacted.

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